Truth of Blue Eyes

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Truth of Blue Eyes

by KagomeBenihime

Summary

Will and Adam are still young when their mother passes due to illness, Will begins working hard so that Adam can study and learn to be a scholar.
one day, while working, Will sees two strangers arrive with eyes just like his.

Notes

This one is just a little fluff piece, but I liked it and remembered I never put it on here. so here it is :)
I might write more if I ever get the inspiration again.

The two boys stood beside the meager grave as the rain gently fell.

Will held Adam's hand tightly as his brother sniffled, Will kept his feelings inside, he had to keep Adam safe. His mother wouldn't want him to be sad…

"Come on, Adam…" Will said softly, "Let's get out of the rain…"

Will and Adam had lived in the tavern of the small town for as long as Will could remember, his mother worked in the tavern and spent the evenings teaching Will and Adam their letters and numbers.

It was about a month ago that their mother had gotten ill, she had told them not to worry and that they would be alright, but she had never managed to recover…

The tavern owner, Miss Graft, met them at the door, arms folded and face stern.

Will swallowed slightly, he knew she wanted to kick them out, she hadn't liked that the boys had been there, but their mother had been her best worker so she had accepted it, but now…

"You can't stay here for free." She said, "I'm not running a charity."

Adam looked up at her in shock, "Wh-what?"

"I don't need you pale eyed freaks scaring away customers and loafing around!" She snapped.

Will sighed softly, Will and Adam both had bright blue eyes, everyone else in the town had brown or green, no one had blue but them. "I'll work my mother's job." He said, Adam looked at him with wide eyes, but he continued, "I'll work her job and any other things you need done, just let us stay in the back room and let Adam continue his studies." Adam was a smart child, he had excelled faster then Will had, Will didn't mind being a worker if Adam could learn and maybe be a scholar.

Graft seemed to think about that for a minute before finally nodding, "Fine. But if you slack off, you're both out on your ears."

Will nodded and led Adam back to their small room.

"Will," Adam said softly, "it isn't worth it, let's just leave… she'll work you to the bone, we can get by…"

Will shook his head, "I'll be fine, you have a bright future, Adam. If me working can get you there, then I'll do it."

Adam frowned, but he let the matter drop.

Will began working in the tavern, doing every side job and menial task that Graft came up with. He gathered dishes, washed them, chopped wood for the fireplaces, changed the bed

linens, mopped the floors, and usually mucked out the stables. Graft loved it, she kept Will busy, not bothering to hire more people as Will did it for so little.

Each night, Will would stagger back to their small room, keeping a reassuring smile and quickly wash in the cold water from the basin before curling up under their thin blanket with Adam on their small straw mattress.

It was almost three months later when the two strangers arrived, Will was gathering the lunch rush dishes when they entered, causing everyone in the tavern to stare, the two were dressed in cloaks of royal blue, their hoods covering their heads.

"What can I get you gentlemen!" Graft quickly said, sounding wholly unpleasant to Will, but he was sure she was trying to sound welcoming and sweet, hoping for good tips.

"Ale." One grunted as they both removed their hoods and sat at the bar. Will was surprised, they both had brown curls like Adam and Will did.

"And Eleanor." The other said.

Will froze, these men knew his mother? At that moment, the elder of the two, at least Will thought he was older, looked over at Will, blue eyes meeting blue eyes.

Will stared in shock as the man nudged the other and they looked over as well, blue eyes.

The men both stood and moved toward him.

The wooden dishes in Will's arms crashed to the floor and he bolted.

"Wait!" One of the men called, but Will didn't slow.

He rushed to their room, "Adam! We need to hide." He said quickly.

Adam looked up from his book, worry and confusion on his face, "What? Why?"

Will shook his head, "I'm not sure, but we-"

Just then, the two men appeared in the doorway, Will turned quickly, his arms out to shield his brother, trying to look fierce, "Don't touch my brother." He growled, "I won't let you hurt him."

The men looked at each other in surprise before the elder moved forward slowly and knelt so he was at Will's height.

"You don't remember us?" He asked, Will stared at him and the man sighed, "What is your name?" He asked softly.

Will swallowed, "Will." He managed weakly, the man smiled gently.

"Hello, Will. My name is Nolan, that is Bobby, we've come to take you home."

Will stared in confusion until Nolan held out his hand, something glinting in his palm.

Adam gasped, ducking under Will's outstretched arms, "That's mother's ring!"

It was a silver and gold ring with an emerald and small diamonds, Will and Adam used to love looking at it, no matter how hard things had gotten, their mother had never sold it, saying it was "A piece of home" they hadn't been able to find it after she passed, they thought someone had stolen it but-

"We're your brothers." Bobby said from the doorway, "and we've been looking for you for years."

Will looked up at him, "What? What do you mean? Mother never said-"

Nolan sighed softly, giving Bobby a glare before answering him, "When you were both five seasons old, there was unrest in the capital, there were death threats made against the royal family and father sent you and mother into hiding to keep you safe, Bobby and I were old enough to defend ourselves, but father didn't want you hurt, once things settled again, he couldn't find you, not until mother sent the letter saying she was ill and wanted you both safe."

"Where is mother anyway?" Bobby asked, "She works here too, right?"

Will looked down, "Mother passed away… almost four months ago…"

The two looked at Will, eyes worried, Nolan reached out, ruffling Will's curls gently, "Oh Willy… I'm so sorry…"

Will sniffled slightly, the gesture felt so… familiar…

Nolan smiled softly at him, "Still trying to be the strong one, aren't you…" he murmured softly before pulling Will into a gentle hug.

Will gripped at Nolan's cloak, shaking as he sobbed softly.

"Will…" Adam said softly.

"It's alright, Starlight…" Bobby said, smiling at Adam, "He needs to let it out…"

A moment later, the peace was shattered by Graft yelling.

"Boy! Where are you?!" Then her heavy footsteps as she moved to their room, "Dishes on the floor, no work done? I ought to box your ears you ungrateful-" she stopped short, eyes wide at the fierce glares from the two strangers.

Nolan smiled at her, but there was an ice behind it that made Graft step back slightly. "We have a long journey, please pack us supplies, we will be taking the young princes with us, of course."

Graft's mouth opened and shut like a fish before Bobby grunted, "Today, please." Which sent her scurrying.

Nolan chuckled softly before he reached into his satchel and pulled out blue cloaks, much like the ones he and Bobby wore, "We weren't sure how much you had grown… but they should fit…"

Will and Adam took them, putting them on slowly, they were longer than the boys were tall, but they could hold them up when they walked.

They gathered what few things they owned and moved out to the tavern again.

Graft had two sacks of supplies ready on the bar, looking at the boys with an almost fear, after how she had treated them, Will wasn't surprised.

Bobby grabbed the bags as Nolan placed some coins on the counter.

"You watched over our brothers after our mother the queen passed away." Nolan said, again with that almost icy smile, "I'm sure our father the king will reward you…"

Graft swallowed, looking terrified, but nodded.

Nolan took Will's hand as Bobby led Adam out to two beautiful horses, one a black and white, the other a dappled gray.

"Come on," Nolan said, hoisting Will up onto the black and white horse and climbing up behind him as Bobby did the same with Adam. "Let's go home."

Will looked at Adam, smiling at him hopefully, home… they were going home…

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